

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-13 ARA-16 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 AID-20

DRC-01 /190 W

----- 122140

R 180830Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4532

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR SG VS

SUBJ: VISIT OF PRESIDENT OF PRG TO SENEGAL

REF: DAKAR 4088

1. PRG PRESIDENT NGUYEN HUU THO AND FONMIN NGUYEN THI BINH LEFT SENEGAL TODAY FOR YUGOSLAVIA AFTER THREE DAY VISIT.

2. JOINT COMMUNIQUE SIGNED BY SENGHOR AND THO CHIEFLY DEVOTED USUAL DECLARATIONS FRIENDSHIP, AFFIRMATION OF IMPORTANCE NON-ALIGNMENT AND NECESSITY STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM. IN ADDITION SENGHOR CITED IN COMMUNIQUE AS SUPPORTING THE PRG LEADERSHIP CHARACTERIZED AS AUTHENTIC REPRESENTATIVE OF THE POPULATION OF SOUTH VIETNAM" LA DIRECTION DU GRP REPRESENTANT AUTHENTIQUE DE LA POPULATION DU SUD-VIETNAM". SENGHOR IS ALSO CITED AS EXPRESSING HIS PREOCCUPATION WITH SYSTEMATIC VIOLATIONS OF THE PARIS ACCORDS WHICH JEOPARDIZE THE EFFORTS OF PRG TO FIND PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO PROBLEM OF SOUTH VIETNAM.

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3. DESPITE IMPLICATIONS OF AFOREMENTIONED PASSAGES IN

COMMUNIQUE, SENGHOR IN TOAST TO THO AT SEPT 15 LUNCHEON MADE CLEAR THAT HE RECOGNIZES TWO PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENTS (THE PRG AND GVN). IT IS THE ROLE OF THE PEOPLE OF VIETNAM TO DETERMINE IN FREE ELECTIONS, THE PRESIDENT SAID, THE LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVES WHO WILL CONSTITUTE THE "DEFINITIVE" GOVT OF SOUTH VIETNAM. SENGHOR ADDED THAT BY RECOGNIZING TWO GOVERNMENTS IN VIETNAM HE HAD INTENTION TO WORK TOWARDS ESTABLISHMENT OF PEACE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA.

4. IN RECIPROCATING SENGHOR'S TOAST THO STRESSED NON-ALIGNMENT AND NEUTRALITY OF PRG. RATHER THAN DISPUTE LEGITIMACY OF GVN, WHICH HE REFERRED TO AS THE SAIGON ADMINISTRATION, HE CONFINED HIMSELF TO ATTACKING SOUTH VIETNAMESE VIOLATIONS OF PARIS ACCORDS, VIOLATIONS WHICH HE SAID HAD THE SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE UNITED STATES. IN ORDER MAKE HIS DISCOURSE TOPICAL, THO ALSO THREW IN A PASSING REFERENCE TO REACTIONARIES IN CHILE ACTING AT INSTIGATION OF AMERICAN IMPERIALISM. IN STATEMENTS PUBLISHED IN PRESS, US OTHERWISE ESCAPED VITUPERATION AND SAIGON HANDLED LIGHTLY. HOWEVER, THO WAS LESS POLITE IN PRESS CONFERENCE BROADCAST OVER SENEGALESE RADIO THAN PRESS ACCOUNT INDICATES.

5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH SENGHOR PUSHED BY PRG IN JOINT COMMUNIQUE TO IMPLY LATTER ONLY AUTHENTIC REPRESENTATIVE OF SOUTH VIETNAMESE, ON BALANCE HE WAS ABLE PRESERVE WEIRD POSITION HE HAS CARVED OUT FOR HIMSELF MIDWAY BETWEEN STANCES OF GVN AND PRG. RELATIVE RESTRAINT AND MODERATE FORMAL STATEMENTS OF THO AND MADAME BINH DURING VISIT WERE NO DOUBT TAILORED TO SENSIBILITIES THEIR HOST. DECLARED INTENTION OF SENGHOR TO WORK FOR PEACE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA IN ACCORD WITH REMARKS AMBASSADOR COUBARY MADE IN RECENT CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR CLARK THAT SENGHOR BELIEVES HE MAY BE ABLE PLAY MEDIATORY ROLE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA.
CLARK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973DAKAR04134
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: DAKAR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730928/aaaaauke.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: DAKAR 4088
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <31-Jan-2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF PRESIDENT OF PRG TO SENEGAL
TAGS: PFOR, SG, VS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005